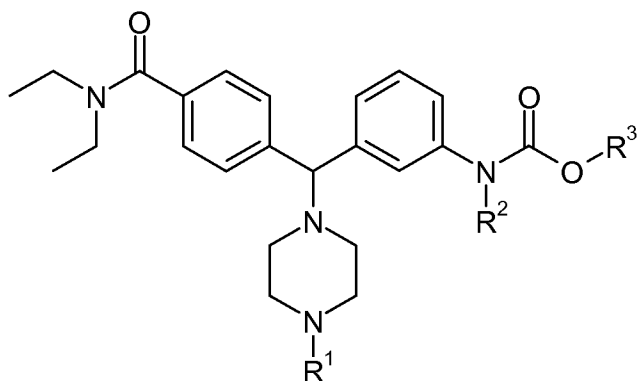


**In the Claims**

The listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

**Listings of claims**

1. (original) A compound of formula I, a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, diastereomers, enantiomers, or mixtures thereof:



I

wherein

R<sup>1</sup> is selected from C<sub>1-6</sub>alkyl, C<sub>2-6</sub>alkenyl, C<sub>3-6</sub>cycloalkyl, and C<sub>3-6</sub>cycloalkyl-C<sub>1-4</sub>alkyl, wherein said C<sub>1-6</sub>alkyl, C<sub>2-6</sub>alkenyl, C<sub>3-6</sub>cycloalkyl, and C<sub>3-6</sub>cycloalkyl-C<sub>1-4</sub>alkyl are optionally substituted with one or more groups selected from -R, -NO<sub>2</sub>, -OR, -Cl, -Br, -I, -F, -CF<sub>3</sub>, -C(=O)R, -C(=O)OH, -NH<sub>2</sub>, -SH, -NHR, -NR<sub>2</sub>, -SR, -SO<sub>3</sub>H, -SO<sub>2</sub>R, -S(=O)R, -CN, -OH, -C(=O)OR, -C(=O)NR<sub>2</sub>, -NRC(=O)R, and -NRC(=O)-OR, wherein R is, independently, a hydrogen, C<sub>3-6</sub>cycloalkyl or C<sub>1-6</sub>alkyl;

R<sup>2</sup> is selected from -H, C<sub>1-6</sub>alkyl and C<sub>3-6</sub>cycloalkyl, wherein said C<sub>1-6</sub>alkyl and C<sub>3-6</sub>cycloalkyl are optionally substituted with one or more groups selected from -OR, -Cl, -Br, -I, -F, -CF<sub>3</sub>, -C(=O)R, -C(=O)OH, -NH<sub>2</sub>, -SH, -NHR, -NR<sub>2</sub>, -SR, -SO<sub>3</sub>H, -SO<sub>2</sub>R, -S(=O)R, -CN, -OH, -C(=O)OR, -C(=O)NR<sub>2</sub>, -NRC(=O)R, and -NRC(=O)-OR, wherein R is, independently, a hydrogen or C<sub>1-6</sub>alkyl; and

R<sup>3</sup> is selected from C<sub>1-6</sub>alkyl and C<sub>3-6</sub>cycloalkyl, wherein said C<sub>1-6</sub>alkyl and C<sub>3-6</sub>cycloalkyl are optionally substituted with one or more groups selected from -OR, -Cl, -Br, -I, -F, -CF<sub>3</sub>, -C(=O)R, -C(=O)OH, -NH<sub>2</sub>, -SH, -NHR, -NR<sub>2</sub>, -SR, -SO<sub>3</sub>H, -SO<sub>2</sub>R, -S(=O)R, -CN, -OH, -C(=O)OR, -C(=O)NR<sub>2</sub>, -NRC(=O)R, and -NRC(=O)-OR, wherein R is, independently, a hydrogen or C<sub>1-6</sub>alkyl.

2. (original) A compound according to claim 1, wherein

$R^1$  is  $C_{1-6}$ alkyl,  $C_{3-6}$ cycloalkyl and  $C_{3-6}$ cycloalkyl-methyl, wherein said  $C_{1-6}$ alkyl,  $C_{3-6}$ cycloalkyl and  $C_{3-6}$ cycloalkyl-methyl are optionally substituted with one or more groups selected from  $C_{1-6}$ alkyl,  $-CF_3$ ,  $C_{1-6}$ alkoxy, chloro, fluoro and bromo;

$R^2$  is selected from  $-H$  and  $C_{1-3}$ alkyl; and

$R^3$  is selected from  $C_{1-6}$ alkyl, and  $C_{3-6}$ cycloalkyl.

3. (original) A compound according to claim 2,  
wherein  $R^1$  is selected from  $C_{1-6}$ alkyl and  $C_{3-6}$ cycloalkyl-methyl, wherein said  $C_{1-6}$ alkyl and  $C_{3-6}$ cycloalkyl-methyl are optionally substituted with one or more groups selected from methoxy, ethoxy and isopropoxy;

$R^2$  is selected from  $-H$ ; and

$R^3$  is selected from methyl, ethyl, propyl and isopropyl.

4. (original) A compound according to claim 1, wherein

$R^1$  is selected from n-propyl, cyclopropylmethyl, n-pentyl, 2-methoxyethyl, n-butyl, 2-isopropoxyethyl, 2-ethoxyethyl, 3-methoxypropyl, cyclobutylmethyl, methyl, and ethyl;

$R^2$  is selected from  $-H$ ; and

$R^3$  is selected from methyl and ethyl.

5. (original) A compound according to claim 1, wherein the compound is selected from:

Compound 1: methyl 3-((S)-{4-[(diethylamino)carbonyl]phenyl}[4-(2-methoxyethyl)piperazin-1-yl]methyl}phenyl)carbamate;

Compound 2: methyl 3-((S)-{4-butylpiperazin-1-yl}[4-[(diethylamino)carbonyl]phenyl]methyl}phenyl)carbamate;

Compound 3: methyl 3-((S)-{4-[(diethylamino)carbonyl]phenyl}(4-pentylpiperazin-1-yl)methyl}phenyl)carbamate;

Compound 4: methyl 3-((S)-{4-[(diethylamino)carbonyl]phenyl}(4-propylpiperazin-1-yl)methyl}phenyl)carbamate;

Compound 5: methyl 3-((S)-[4-(cyclopropylmethyl)piperazin-1-yl]{4-[(diethylamino)carbonyl]phenyl}methyl}phenyl)carbamate;

Compound 6: methyl 3-((S)-[4-(cyclobutylmethyl)piperazin-1-yl]{4-[(diethylamino)carbonyl]phenyl}methyl}phenyl)carbamate;

Compound 7: methyl 3-((R)-{4-[(diethylamino)carbonyl]phenyl}[4-(2-methoxyethyl)piperazin-1-yl]methyl}phenyl)carbamate;

Compound 8: methyl 3-((R)-{4-[(diethylamino)carbonyl]phenyl}[4-(2-ethoxyethyl)piperazin-1-yl]methyl}phenyl)carbamate;

Compound 9: methyl 3-((R)-{4-[(diethylamino)carbonyl]phenyl}[4-(3-methoxypropyl)piperazin-1-yl]methyl)phenylcarbamate;

Compound 10: methyl 3-((R)-{4-[(diethylamino)carbonyl]phenyl}(4-propylpiperazin-1-yl)methyl)phenylcarbamate;

Compound 11: methyl 3-((R)-{4-butylpiperazin-1-yl}{4-[(diethylamino)carbonyl]phenyl}methyl)phenylcarbamate;

Compound 12: methyl 3-((R)-{4-[(diethylamino)carbonyl]phenyl}(4-pentylpiperazin-1-yl)methyl)phenylcarbamate;

Compound 13: methyl 3-((R)-[4-(cyclopropylmethyl)piperazin-1-yl]{4-[(diethylamino)carbonyl]phenyl}methyl)phenylcarbamate;

Compound 14: methyl 3-((R)-[4-(cyclobutylmethyl)piperazin-1-yl]{4-[(diethylamino)carbonyl]phenyl}methyl)phenylcarbamate;

Compound 15: ethyl 3-((R)-{4-[(diethylamino)carbonyl]phenyl}[4-(2-methoxyethyl)piperazin-1-yl]methyl)phenylcarbamate;

Compound 16: ethyl 3-((R)-{4-butylpiperazin-1-yl}{4-[(diethylamino)carbonyl]phenyl}methyl)phenylcarbamate;

Compound 17: ethyl [3-((R)-[4-(cyclopropylmethyl)piperazin-1-yl]{4-[(diethylamino)carbonyl]phenyl}methyl)phenyl]carbamate;

Compound 18: ethyl {3-((R)-{4-[(diethylamino)carbonyl]phenyl}(4-propylpiperazin-1-yl)methyl)phenyl}carbamate;

Compound 19: ethyl {3-((R)-{4-[(diethylamino)carbonyl]phenyl}(4-ethylpiperazin-1-yl)methyl)phenyl}carbamate;

Compound 20: ethyl {3-((R)-{4-[(diethylamino)carbonyl]phenyl}(4-methylpiperazin-1-yl)methyl)phenyl}carbamate;

and pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof.

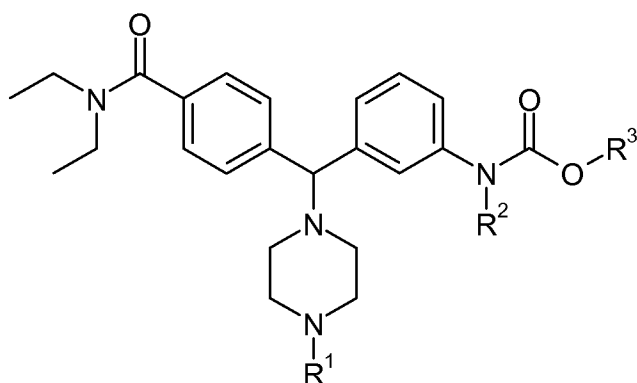
6-7. (cancelled)

8. (currently amended) A pharmaceutical composition comprising a compound according to ~~any one of claims 1-5~~ and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

9. (currently amended) A method for the therapy of pain in a warm-blooded animal, comprising the step of administering to said animal in need of such therapy a therapeutically effective amount of a compound according to ~~any one of claims 1-5~~.

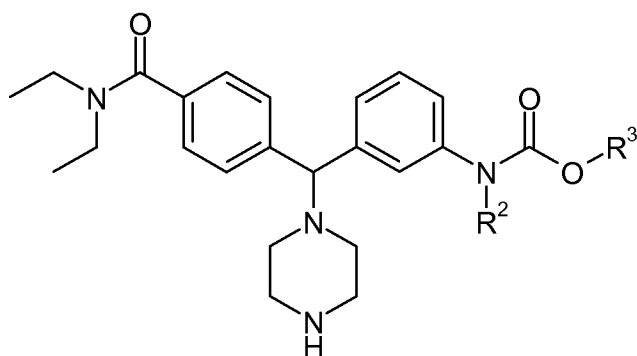
10. (currently amended) A method for the therapy of functional gastrointestinal disorders in a warm-blooded animal, comprising the step of administering to said animal in need of such therapy a therapeutically effective amount of a compound according to ~~any one of~~ claims 1-5.

11. (original) A process for preparing a compound of formula I, comprising:



I

reacting a compound of formula II with  $R^1$ -X:



II

wherein X is a halogen;

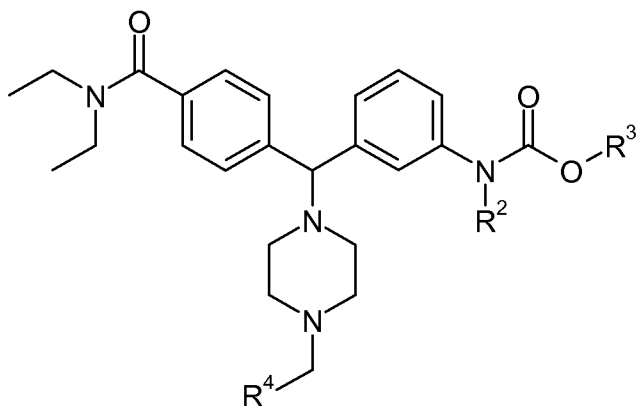
$R^1$  is selected from  $C_{1-6}$ alkyl,  $C_{2-6}$ alkenyl,  $C_{3-6}$ cycloalkyl, and  $C_{3-6}$ cycloalkyl- $C_{1-4}$ alkyl, wherein said  $C_{1-6}$ alkyl,  $C_{2-6}$ alkenyl,  $C_{3-6}$ cycloalkyl, and  $C_{3-6}$ cycloalkyl- $C_{1-4}$ alkyl are optionally substituted with one or more groups selected from -R, -NO<sub>2</sub>, -OR, -Cl, -Br, -I, -F, -CF<sub>3</sub>, -C(=O)R, -C(=O)OH, -NH<sub>2</sub>, -SH, -NHR, -NR<sub>2</sub>, -SR, -SO<sub>3</sub>H, -SO<sub>2</sub>R, -S(=O)R, -CN, -OH, -C(=O)OR, -C(=O)NR<sub>2</sub>, -NRC(=O)R, and -NRC(=O)-OR, wherein R is, independently, a hydrogen or  $C_{1-6}$ alkyl;

$R^2$  is selected from -H,  $C_{1-6}$ alkyl and  $C_{3-6}$ cycloalkyl, wherein said  $C_{1-6}$ alkyl and  $C_{3-6}$ cycloalkyl are optionally substituted with one or more groups selected from -OR, -Cl, -Br, -I, -F, -CF<sub>3</sub>, -C(=O)R, -C(=O)OH, -NH<sub>2</sub>, -SH, -NHR, -NR<sub>2</sub>, -SR, -SO<sub>3</sub>H, -SO<sub>2</sub>R, -S(=O)R, -CN,

-OH, -C(=O)OR, -C(=O)NR<sub>2</sub>, -NRC(=O)R, and -NRC(=O)-OR, wherein R is, independently, a hydrogen or C<sub>1-6</sub>alkyl; and

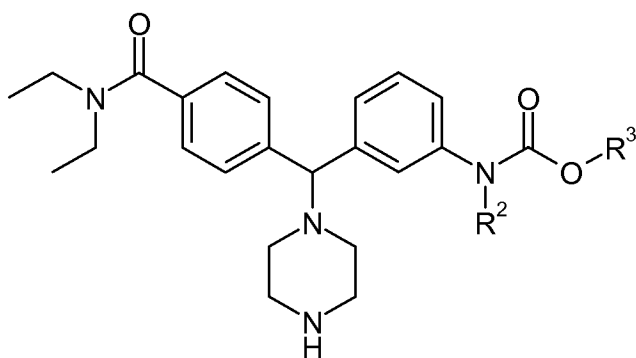
R<sup>3</sup> is selected from C<sub>1-6</sub>alkyl and C<sub>3-6</sub>cycloalkyl, wherein said C<sub>1-6</sub>alkyl and C<sub>3-6</sub>cycloalkyl are optionally substituted with one or more groups selected from -OR, -Cl, -Br, -I, -F, -CF<sub>3</sub>, -C(=O)R, -C(=O)OH, -NH<sub>2</sub>, -SH, -NHR, -NR<sub>2</sub>, -SR, -SO<sub>3</sub>H, -SO<sub>2</sub>R, -S(=O)R, -CN, -OH, -C(=O)OR, -C(=O)NR<sub>2</sub>, -NRC(=O)R, and -NRC(=O)-OR, wherein R is, independently, a hydrogen or C<sub>1-6</sub>alkyl.

12. (original) A process for preparing a compound of formula III, comprising:



III

reacting a compound of formula II with R<sup>4</sup>-CHO:



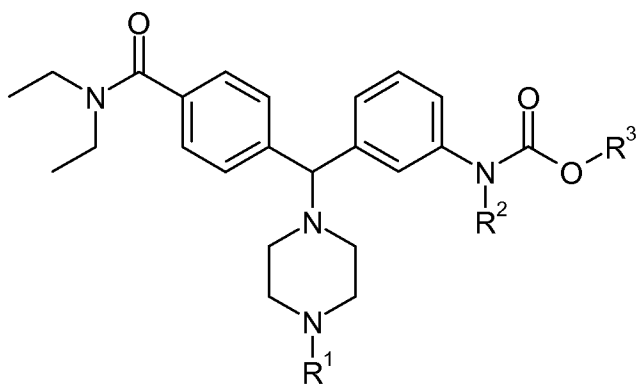
II

wherein R<sup>4</sup> is selected from -H, C<sub>1-6</sub>alkyl and C<sub>3-6</sub>cycloalkyl, wherein said C<sub>1-6</sub>alkyl and C<sub>3-6</sub>cycloalkyl are optionally substituted with one or more groups selected from -R, -NO<sub>2</sub>, -OR, -Cl, -Br, -I, -F, -CF<sub>3</sub>, -C(=O)R, -C(=O)OH, -NH<sub>2</sub>, -SH, -NHR, -NR<sub>2</sub>, -SR, -SO<sub>3</sub>H, -SO<sub>2</sub>R, -S(=O)R, -CN, -OH, -C(=O)OR, -C(=O)NR<sub>2</sub>, -NRC(=O)R, and -NRC(=O)-OR, wherein R is, independently, a hydrogen or C<sub>1-6</sub>alkyl;

$R^2$  is selected from -H,  $C_{1-6}$ alkyl and  $C_{3-6}$ cycloalkyl, wherein said  $C_{1-6}$ alkyl and  $C_{3-6}$ cycloalkyl are optionally substituted with one or more groups selected from -OR, -Cl, -Br, -I, -F, -CF<sub>3</sub>, -C(=O)R, -C(=O)OH, -NH<sub>2</sub>, -SH, -NHR, -NR<sub>2</sub>, -SR, -SO<sub>3</sub>H, -SO<sub>2</sub>R, -S(=O)R, -CN, -OH, -C(=O)OR, -C(=O)NR<sub>2</sub>, -NRC(=O)R, and -NRC(=O)-OR, wherein R is, independently, a hydrogen or  $C_{1-6}$ alkyl; and

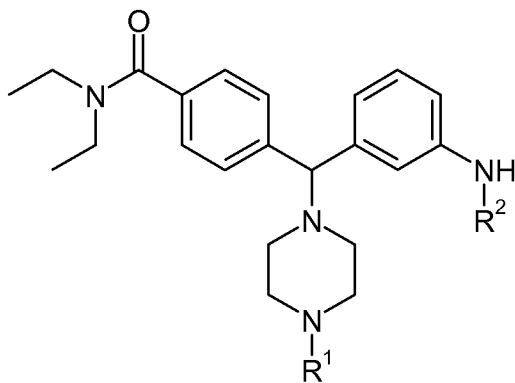
$R^3$  is selected from  $C_{1-6}$ alkyl and  $C_{3-6}$ cycloalkyl, wherein said  $C_{1-6}$ alkyl and  $C_{3-6}$ cycloalkyl are optionally substituted with one or more groups selected from  $C_{1-6}$ alkyl, halogenated  $C_{1-6}$ alkyl, -CF<sub>3</sub>,  $C_{1-6}$ alkoxy, chloro, fluoro and bromo.

13. (original) A process of preparing a compound of formula I, comprising:



I

reacting a compound of formula IV with  $R^3$ -O-C(=O)-X:



IV

wherein X is a halogen;

$R^1$  is selected from  $C_{1-6}$ alkyl,  $C_{2-6}$ alkenyl,  $C_{3-6}$ cycloalkyl, and  $C_{3-6}$ cycloalkyl- $C_{1-4}$ alkyl, wherein said  $C_{1-6}$ alkyl,  $C_{2-6}$ alkenyl,  $C_{3-6}$ cycloalkyl, and  $C_{3-6}$ cycloalkyl- $C_{1-4}$ alkyl are optionally substituted with one or more groups selected from -R, -NO<sub>2</sub>, -OR, -Cl, -Br, -I, -F, -CF<sub>3</sub>, -C(=O)R, -C(=O)OH, -NH<sub>2</sub>, -SH, -NHR, -NR<sub>2</sub>, -SR, -SO<sub>3</sub>H, -SO<sub>2</sub>R, -S(=O)R, -CN, -OH,

-C(=O)OR, -C(=O)NR<sub>2</sub>, -NRC(=O)R, and -NRC(=O)-OR, wherein R is, independently, a hydrogen or C<sub>1-6</sub>alkyl;

R<sup>2</sup> is selected from -H, C<sub>1-6</sub>alkyl and C<sub>3-6</sub>cycloalkyl, wherein said C<sub>1-6</sub>alkyl and C<sub>3-6</sub>cycloalkyl are optionally substituted with one or more groups selected from -OR, -Cl, -Br, -I, -F, -CF<sub>3</sub>, -C(=O)R, -C(=O)OH, -NH<sub>2</sub>, -SH, -NHR, -NR<sub>2</sub>, -SR, -SO<sub>3</sub>H, -SO<sub>2</sub>R, -S(=O)R, -CN, -OH, -C(=O)OR, -C(=O)NR<sub>2</sub>, -NRC(=O)R, and -NRC(=O)-OR, wherein R is, independently, a hydrogen or C<sub>1-6</sub>alkyl; and

R<sup>3</sup> is selected from C<sub>1-6</sub>alkyl and C<sub>3-6</sub>cycloalkyl, wherein said C<sub>1-6</sub>alkyl and C<sub>3-6</sub>cycloalkyl are optionally substituted with one or more groups selected from -OR, -Cl, -Br, -I, -F, -CF<sub>3</sub>, -C(=O)R, -C(=O)OH, -NH<sub>2</sub>, -SH, -NHR, -NR<sub>2</sub>, -SR, -SO<sub>3</sub>H, -SO<sub>2</sub>R, -S(=O)R, -CN, -OH, -C(=O)OR, -C(=O)NR<sub>2</sub>, -NRC(=O)R, and -NRC(=O)-OR, wherein R is, independently, a hydrogen or C<sub>1-6</sub>alkyl.

14. (original) A compound selected from:

ethyl 3-[(R)-{4-[(diethylamino)carbonyl]phenyl}(piperazin-1-yl)methyl]phenylcarbamate;  
isobutyl 3-[(R)-{4-[(diethylamino)carbonyl]phenyl}(piperazin-1-yl)methyl]phenylcarbamate;  
enantiomers thereof; pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof and mixtures thereof.

15. (new) A method for the therapy of anxiety in a warm-blooded animal, comprising the step of administering to said animal in need of such therapy a therapeutically effective amount of a compound according to claim 1.